

November 13, 2018

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 455 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I'm writing to ask you to protect PEG channels in our community and many other communities like ours. I join others in expressing our concern about and disapproval of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

AndoverTV has made possible a level of communication that would be out-of-reach of a small community nonprofit such as the Andover Center for History & Culture. Through AndoverTV's unique local programming we are able to share the history and stories of Andover with a broad community audience. We work with individual video producers, community production groups such as "There is Something About Andover," and local historians on programs that showcase the history and culture of the town. This local focus would be impossible without our local cable access television group, AndoverTV.

In addition to producing programming, AndoverTV helps manage audio and video for each of our fundraising events and they produce videos that showcase the mission and work of the Center for History & Culture. Where else would we learn how to produce videos that speak to our community? Where else would we have access to the expertise of producers? AndoverTV has helped raise over \$50,000 this year alone. For an organization with a total annual budget of \$300,000, this is absolutely invaluable support. AndoverTV is a major partner in our mission and work.

AndoverTV enables the residents of our Andover to watch uniquely local programming about their community and local events and issues of interest to them. And that was the intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining "franchise fee" in an overly broad fashion to include "in-kind" support, the FCC's proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels – something that was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and urge you to protect PEG channels in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

Elaine Clements

Elaine Clements
Executive Director

CC: The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner